

# The Great War -- 1123d Day

## British Strike Near Ypres; French Gain

Haig Reports Satisfactory Progress, Despite Heavy Rainstorm

## 1,100 Germans Taken

## Petain's Men Reach Beaumont and Hold Lines on Chemin-des-Dames

LONDON, Aug. 27.—The pressure of the British army was again exerted in the Ypres salient, when storming troops in the pouring rain this afternoon attacked the German positions east and southeast of Langemark, in the direction of Poelkapelle. Judging from the strong artillery preparation noted in the Belin night communiqué, the assault was made in force, and first reports from British headquarters declare that satisfactory progress is being made all along the line. Apparently the engagement was preceded by a faint toward the east of Ypres delivered by the British this morning. General Haig mentions a raid near Oosttaverne, just east of the Meuse River.

On the east bank of the Meuse River, north of Verdun, the Germans have been violently reacting to the renewed French drive of yesterday, but Paris declares that these counterattacks have been entirely without success, scarcely interfering with the consolidation of the newly won positions north of Louvemont. In the day statement from Berlin it was admitted that the Crown Prince's forces had been pressed back from the Beaumont, Fosses and Chaume woods, as well as from the town of Beaumont, but it was stated that a counter thrust restored the lost defenses and resulted in the capture of several hundred prisoners. The night bulletin from the German capital merely says: "In early engagements Beaumont remained in our hands." Paris never claimed the capture of Beaumont, placing the new line at the southern outskirts of the village, where it still remains. The measure of the French success may be gleaned from the announcement that 1,100 prisoners, 32 of whom were officers, were taken in yesterday's sweep.

In order to lessen the French pressure at Verdun by drawing off reserves to the Aisne front the Crown Prince last night attacked repeatedly along the Chemin-des-Dames, thrusting at Noy Farm, east and west of Cerny and on both sides of the Hurtubise monument. The police were watchful, however, and at no point were the German soldiers allowed to reach the French entanglements. The artillery duel in the western Champagne still continues at full pitch and French attacks to reduce the galling German garrison of gunners at Fort Brimont are looked for here.

The British War Office is silent as to any fighting around Lens aside from patrol engagements, but Berlin reports a strong Canadian attack upon the city from the northwest at dusk yesterday, following a storm of gunfire extending from the coal centre to La Bassée. It is said to have been thrown back after a brief engagement. Unofficial accounts picture the Canadians as more or less quietly consolidating their new redoubts about 600 yards west of the burned district of Lens.

The German War Office credits the British with the success announced by General Haig yesterday on the Malakoff and Cologne farms in the St. Quentin-Cambrai sector, but declares the advance was only made after an all-day battle and was arrested after it had resulted in local gains.

Despite the uncertain weather there has been considerable air activity along the West front. German fliers proved aggressive fighters yesterday, but seven of their machines were downed by the British and seven more by the French. Only two of the British planes are reported missing, though members of the Royal Flying Corps repeatedly engaged the enemy's batteries, transport and infantry with machine gun fire.

German batteries have dropped shells on the French town of Commercy, killing a baby.

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